

Dear Parents,

As the August heat intensifies, I am eager for the cooler temperatures, the start of the Fall semester, and the return of your sons and daughters to Wesleyan's campus. In just a couple of weeks, your sons and daughters will begin their sophomore year in college. This year, university housing will open for all undergraduates on **Saturday, August 31 at 9:00 a.m.** and classes will begin on **Monday, September 2**. Fall Break begins at the end of the day on Friday, October 18, and continues through Tuesday, October 22.

Although the thrill of the initial start of college may have settled a little after the first year, there are still many exciting and critical milestones ahead for sophomores this year. Paramount for most sophomores will be the declaration of an academic major, consideration of study abroad or domestic exchange programs, and career exploration activities. Please remind your daughters and sons that they do not need to engage these activities alone. Key resources to support students in these tasks include:

- [Academic department websites and their faculty](#), [Academic Peer Advisors](#), and [me](#)
- [Fries Center for Global Studies](#)
- [Gordon Career Center](#)

Sophomores will need to read their Wesleyan emails regularly and review the [Class of 2022 blog](#) to learn about upcoming information sessions/open houses. Academic departments are the experts in advising about the requirements for their majors, minors, and certificates. I am happy to guide students as they develop and practice the necessary skills of communicating with these key contacts.

For now, we are encouraging students to develop a course plan for the fall that is balanced yet guided by the timeline and requirements of the majors or study abroad opportunity of interest to them. Sophomores should plan to reach out to their pre-major advisors in late August and plan to initiate fall meetings with the other key resources listed above. Students will be able to make adjustments to their course schedules during the **Drop/Add period from September 2 to September 13 at 5:00 p.m.**

Please encourage your sons and daughters to schedule a meeting with me if they need assistance with anything and you should feel free to let me know if there are any concerns. Remember there is a community of parents. You may learn more about this and other resources by visiting [the Parent Program website](#).

In the meantime, enjoy the remaining weeks of the summer with your soon-to-be second-year student and I hope you will join us during [Homecoming/Family Weekend, November 1-3, 2019](#).

Sincerely,

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